

Mr. Speaker, these broken promises mean one thing. The time has come to fix this bad deal. I urge my colleagues to support the NAFTA Accountability Act and cut America's losses before it is too late.

BALANCED BUDGET IN 7 YEARS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, it is reported today that the President has decided to submit his third budget this year. This one is to balance in 7 years. Well, I hope three is a charm. The first two did not even come close to balancing.

But I would hope it is like the President's Medicare proposal, because, as reported yesterday in the Washington Post, if you look at expenditures in the year 2002, it is remarkably close to the Republican plan. In fact, it is less than 2 percentage points apart, less than 2 percentage points apart. Where are the cuts, Mr. President?

Well, according to this article, the President just had the wrong starting point. So if his balanced budget is as close as his Medicare plan, there is no reason for him to shut down the Government again.

Let us do the right thing for the American public, the right thing for ourselves, the right thing for our children. Let us balance the budget in 7 years.

BUDGET COMPROMISE

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President has made a fair compromise offer to our appropriations woes. President Clinton has offered to sign all of the outstanding appropriations bills if we agree to restore \$6.8 billion from the \$222 billion extreme cuts in those spending bills. The administration wants to restore funding for education, for veterans, and for environmental efforts.

Mr. Speaker, this is a hopeful sign. The administration has signaled their effort to compromise and get the issues of the remaining appropriations bills dealt with so the taxpayers do not have to spend another \$850 million to give our Federal employees a paid vacation.

It is time to compromise. The American people have signaled they believe these Republican appropriations bills cut too much, too fast. They want to restore funding for education, veterans, housing, and environmental programs, and then get about the business of setting the priorities for a balanced budget.

With the bipartisan success we saw in the lobby reform bill, the increase in Social Security earnings limits yester-

day, and the gift ban last week, I believe we can work together for the good of the American people and pass some commonsense appropriations bills that fund these important programs and cut where needed.

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THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION FOR BALANCED BUDGET IN 104TH CONGRESS

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, more than 2½ weeks ago President Clinton signed the following commitment into law. This is the text, so there is no confusion. I quote. "The President and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress," that is 1995, "to achieve a balanced budget no later than fiscal year 2002, as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office; and the President and the Congress agree that the balanced budget must protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, and provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education, agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment. Further, the balanced budget shall adopt tax policies to help working families and to stimulate future economic growth."

The Congress did this long ago. The President says he does not like the Republican balanced budget plan. That is fine, but where is the President's alternative 7-year budget plan with CBO numbers? Mr. Speaker, the President has made a commitment. The deadline is Friday. We are waiting.

VOTE TO SAVE COPS PROGRAM

(Mr. STUPAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today, we will vote on the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriation bill, which contains the COPS Program. Not only does this bill do away with the successful COPS Program, but if we look on page 21 of the bill, it repudiates the COPS contract that the Department of Justice has signed with our local communities. If my colleagues have received a police officer in their district under the COPS Program, Federal funding for the third year of this program may be taken away.

Having walked a beat myself as a city police officer, I am concerned that not only does the police officer have to worry about his or her personal safety and the community's safety, but now they have to worry about their employment security and safety. The new majority wishes to break the contract with our police officers. Fifty-four po-

lice officers in my district are at risk. So let us stand up for the police officers in our communities, let us not allow this new majority to risk the employment opportunities for our police officers. Vote "yes" on the Democratic motion to recommit to save the COPS Program and continue employment of cops in your district.

AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A BALANCED BUDGET AND THEY WANT IT NOW

(Mr. CHRYSLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary bill will come to the floor today, and it cuts more than the House bill originally did and takes a meaningful first step toward eliminating the Commerce Department, which will be passed this year in Congress and will be on the President's desk.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the results are in on the largest public opinion poll ever taken: 7,200 registered voters. Eighty-six percent believe the President and Congress should deal with the budget issues now instead of after next year's elections; 73 percent agree that unless the President and the Congress stick to a 7-year deadline neither will balance the budget and eliminate the deficit; and 55 percent think money should be reduced by the Federal level and given back to the States and local governments who know better how to spend it.

Mr. Speaker, the results are in, the opinion is clear, the American people want a balanced budget and they want it now. The President should offer his budget now, finally.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO RAID CRIME TRUST FUND

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day for law enforcement across America. Our Republican friends want to raid the crime trust fund and jerk a commitment of 100,000 police officers who will be on our streets, protecting our neighborhoods. It is time to stand up for our cops.

And what about law enforcement in our own neighborhood, right here on the floor of Congress? Twice now the American people have been denied the right to know what the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has been doing the last 14 months concerning these serious ethics charges against Speaker GINGRICH.

Finally, our Republican colleagues seem willing to permit an outside real prosecutor, so long as that prosecutor's hands are tied and bound from doing anything about the serious charges of